#### BEFORE THE ARIZONA MEDICAL BOARD

In the Matter of:

Abdol Rassol Arjmandfard, M.D.,

Holder of License No. 33227 for the practice of allopathic Medicine in the State of Arizona, et al.,

Respondent.

No. MD-06-0126A

Interim Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Order

(Summary Suspension)

The Arizona Medical Board having considered this matter at its public meeting April 5, 2006. After reviewing relevant information and deliberating, the Board considered proceedings for summary action against the license of Abdol Rassol Arjmandfard, M.D. appearing with legal counsel, Stephen W. Meyers. Having considered the information in the matter and being fully advised, the Board enters the following

Interim Findings of Fact, Conclusion of Law and Order for Summary Suspension of

License pending formal hearing or other Board action pursuant to A.R.S. 32-1451(H).

## **INTERIM FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. The Arizona Medical Board ("Board") is the duly constituted authority for licensing and regulating the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 2. Abdol Rassol Arjmandfard, M.D. ("Respondent") is the holder of License No. 33227 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 3. On February 6, 2005, the Board received a statutory complaint from Banner Baywood Hospital concerning Respondent's suspension for alleged sexual harassment of female employees and inappropriate sexual contact with patient KR, a 41-year-old female patient hospitalized for diabetes. Board staff opened investigation number MD-06-0126A.

- 4. KR reported that she had received care from Respondent in three of four
  2 hospitalizations between November 2005 and January 2006.
  - 5. KR alleged that Respondent conducted a physical examination during the first hospitalization by raising her gown all the way to her chin exposing her breasts and while palpating her abdomen, he would lower the gown to expose her pelvic area. The patient noted that Respondent had pulled the privacy curtain closed even though she was in a private room.
  - 6. KR alleged that, during the second hospitalization when she complained of back pain, Respondent again raised the patient gown to expose her breasts and pelvic region; whispered comments in a sexual manner in her ear during an exam and kissed her on the neck and mouth; during auscultation of her lungs, performed a breast exam wherein he massaged her nipples and proceeded to kiss her breasts; and, performed a pelvic exam, ungloved, wherein he inserted his fingers into and massaged her vagina and then proceeded to kiss her inner thigh and vagina. KR alleged that she wore underwear during her hospitalizations and that during the pelvic exams, Respondent had to physically push her underwear aside in order to insert his finger into her vagina. Respondent then asked her to rollover and massaged her buttocks, asking her if that was the area of her back pain.
  - 7. KR states that she asked nursing staff to provide a chaperone for whenever Respondent appeared to conduct an examination. There is no record of this request and no chaperone was ever present.
  - 8. During an examination during her third hospitalization, KR alleges that Respondent again raised her hospital gown inappropriately, whispered comments in a sexual manner, inappropriately touched her breasts and performed a pelvic exam, ungloved. KR insisted on the presence of a chaperone upon discharge and one was

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provided.

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- 9. Upon discharge, KR complained to a nurse who in turn reported the complaint to a supervisor. At that time, there were several other complaints from female staff members at the hospital regarding Respondent engaging in sexual harassment.
- 10. Respondent has denied all allegations of wrong-doing.
- 11. KR eventually filed a report of the conduct to the Mesa Police Department.
- 12. On February 17, 2006, Respondent entered into an interim consent agreement that included a practice restriction and the requirement that he undergo an evaluation at the Sexual Recovery Institute (SRI) at his expense.
- 13. Respondent failed to complete all portions of the evaluation at SRI.
- 14. The evaluation at SRI concluded that Respondent displayed significant deficits in insight, lack of self-awareness and a tenacious defensive posture and diagnosed him with paraphilia (not otherwise specified)(non-consenting adults) and with mixed personality disorder (not otherwise specified)(with antisocial and narcissistic features) and recommended that he not return to practice until he completes intensive in-patient for offending sexual behaviors.

## **INTERIM CONCLUSIONS OF LAW**

- 15. The Board possesses jurisdiction of the subject matter hereof and over the Respondent, holder of license number 33227 for the practice of allopathic medicine in the State of Arizona.
- 16. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(z) "engaging in sexual conduct with a current patient or with a former patient within six months after the last medical consultation unless the patient was the licensee's spouse at the time of the contact or, immediately preceding the physician-patient relationship, was in a dating or engagement relationship with the

licensee. For the purposes of this subdivision, "sexual conduct" includes: (i) engaging in or soliciting sexual relationships, whether consensual or nonconsensual; (ii) making sexual advances, requesting sexual favors or engaging in any other verbal conduct or physical contact of a sexual nature; (iii) intentionally viewing a completely or partially disrobed patient in the course of treatment if the viewing is not related to patient diagnosis or treatment under current practice standards"

- 17. The conduct and circumstances described above constitute unprofessional conduct pursuant to A.R.S. § 32-1401(27)(r) "Violating a formal order, probation, consent agreement or stipulation issued or entered into by the board or its executive director under the provisions of this chapter.
- 18. Based on the foregoing Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, the public health, safety or welfare imperatively requires emergency action. A.R.S. 32-1451(D).

### **ORDER**

Based on the foregoing Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law, set forth above, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

- Respondent's license number 33227 for the practice of allopathic medicine
  in the State of Arizona is summarily suspended pending formal hearing
  before an Administrative Law Judge from the Office of Administrative
  Hearings.
- 2. The Interim Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law constitute written notice to Respondent of the charges of unprofessional conduct made by the Board against him. The Respondent is entitled to a formal hearing to defend

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these charges as expeditiously as possible after the issuance of this Order.

3. The Executive Director is instructed to refer this matter to the Office of Administrative Hearings for scheduling an administrative hearing to be commenced as expeditiously as possible from the date of issuance of this Order, unless stipulated or agreed otherwise by Respondent.

DATED AND EFFECTIVE this <u>5</u> day of April, 2006.

(SEAL)



Arizona Medical Board

Timothy C. Miller, J.D. Executive Director

Original filed this \_5<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2006, with:

Arizona Medical Board 9545 East Doubletree Road Scottsdale, AZ 85258

Executed Copies of the foregoing were Mailed By U.S. Certified Mail this 5 day of April, 2006, to:

Stephen W. Myers, Esq. Myers & Jenkins PC 3003 N Central Suite 1900 Phoenix, AZ 85012-2910 Attorney for Respondent

Abdol R. Arjmandfard, MD Address of Record

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